94. The signal amplification system according to claim 50, wherein the bacterial multi-hybrid system contains:

(a) a first chimeric polypeptide corresponding to a first fragment a of an enzyme;

(b) a second chimeric polypeptide corresponding to a second fragment of an enzyme or a modulating substance capable of activating said enzyme;

(c) a substance capable of stimulating or inhibiting the interaction between a target ligand and a molecule of interest, wherein the first fragment is fused to a molecule of interest and the second fragment or the modulating substance is fused to a target ligand and wherein the activity of the enzyme is restored by the interaction between the said molecule of interest and the said target ligand and wherein a signal amplification is generated; and

a bacterial strain deficient in endogenous adenylate cyclase selected from the group consisting of strain **BTH101** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2309 and strain **DHM1** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2310.

95. Strain **BTH101** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2309, or Strain **DHM1** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2310.--

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-49 have been canceled. New claims 50-95 are derived from the original claims and find support throughout the specification. Accordingly, no new matter is entered by amendment.

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 23, 2001

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